OUR BELOVED MESSENGERS

Reminiscing

by

Virgilyn Brown

My parents, "Brownie" and Doris, both came into the "I AM" Activity in Its early days in 1934. Of course, I came into the Activity with my parents. In the early days we would say Mr. Ballard. Later we spoke of Mr. Ballard as Beloved Daddy. Beloved Mama told us (the students) the reason we were permitted to call them "Mama" and "Daddy" was because they were our teachers. We used those terms as endearing names between pupils and teachers. Beloved Mama always referred to "Daddy" as "Papa" – "Papa" this or "Papa" that – in giving us instruction. My own father I shall refer to as "my father" or "Brownie" as ha was known. I shall not refer to Brownie as Daddy to avoid ambiguity.

"Water Lily" by the Bang Sisters

Mr. Ballard saw Beloved Saint Germain on the Inner long before meeting Him in the outer. He also would see this beautiful lady whom he called *"Water Lily"*. He had not met her; he had only seen her in his dreams.

Mr. Ballard heard of two sisters in Kansas City known as the Bang Sisters who could precipitate pictures. He contacted them with a request for two pictures; one of a lady he called *"Water Lily"* and one of his sister who had passed on.

The Bang Sisters put an artist's canvas on the living room window and draped material around it to exclude all light except what came through the canvas. They took positions so that the canvas was between them. Mr. Ballard was then asked to visualize the picture he wanted. The picture seemed to form in mid air near the canvas and move slowly forward. It then affixed itself to the canvas.

When *"Water Lily"* was done, he looked disappointed and the ladies asked what was wrong. He told them he always saw her with flowers on her left shoulder. So they again draped the canvas, took

their positions, concentrated and the flowers appeared in the picture. Then they did the picture of his sister.

I understand that these pictures were hanging in the living room of the original home where the Dictations were given by Beloved Saint Germain and the Ascended Masters starting on October 3, 1932.

Several years after the above experience, Mr. Ballard was in downtown Chicago. He walked into a hall where there were entrances to shops and offices. As he looked in one of the windows, he saw his "*Water Lily*". It was a studio where harp lessons were given. So Mr. Ballard entered and signed up for harp lessons. We have been told that Beloved Saint Germain was instrumental in bringing the family together. It is very beautiful to see how He accomplished this, so easily and harmoniously.

Mary Baker Eddy

Baird T. Spalding

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ballard were interested in the Truth of Life. They sought and studied all of the teachings available at that time. They studied the teachings of Baird T. Spalding and Mary Baker Eddy.

Morya El and Kuthumi

They studied Theosophy as Morya El and Kuthumi had given it through Madam Blavastsky and her pupils C.W. Leadbeaster and Annie Besant, both of whom wrote many books.

Morya El worked specifically with C.W. Leadbeaster to bring forth writings and pictures on

thought forms.

Helena-Petrovna-Blavatsky

Annie Besant and C.W. Leadbeaster

These the Ballards showed in the Shrine Classes on "*Picture Night*". They would project them onto a large screen and both Mr. and Mrs. Ballard would explain them. They started by showing the destructive thought forms, then the constructive thought forms and closed with pictures of the Beloved Ascended Masters: Kuthumi, Morya El, the Venetian, El Serapis Bey, Hilarion, Jesus (Lord of the Sixth ray), Saint Germain (Lord of the Seventh Ray), The Lord Maha Chohan (Lord of the Five Rays) and Lord Maitreya.

J.J. van der Leeuw

Descriptions of many of these Masters are given in J.J. van der Leeuw's book, "*The Fire of Creation.*" In one of His Dictations (Vol. VI, page 157) the Tall Master From Venus urges the Students to read often the description of Beloved Saint Germain in van der Leeuw's book.

In the late 1920's Mr. Ballard accepted a position with took him to Weed, California. Weed is near Mount Shasta. It was there that he took the walks which led to his meeting with Beloved Saint Germain in the outer.

Regarding Mr. Ballard's experiences in assisting David Lloyd to His Ascension: In the early 1940's a forest ranger stated that he had seen a man walk up one of the trails on Mount Shasta and later saw another man go up the same trail. He then stated only one man returned.

Mr. Ballard wrote about some of his experiences, as recorded in *The Magic Presence*, while sitting on the steps of the beautiful marble building in Chessman (pronounced Cheese-man) Park in Denver, Colorado.

After the experiences recorded in *Unveiled Mysteries* and *The Magic Presence*, Mr. Ballard returned to his home in Chicago. He invited select people, in groups of seven, into his home where he shared his experiences with them. Some of the people privileged to hear Mr. Ballard in this way were Paul Stickle, Bee Rowe, and Helen Smith.

After some time Beloved Saint Germain came to the Ballards and offered to dictate instruction on what happens when one says, "I AM". He asked them to think it over and tell Him their decision. Mrs. Ballard said,

"We don't have to think it over. We accept right now!"

Beloved Saint Germain then came either in Person or would project a Ray of Light onto the dining room table and dictate to them. They could see the Master at the other end of the Ray of Light. Mrs. Ballard would take it all down in long hand and then type it later. Bee Rowe tells us that mimeographed copies of the Dictations were distributed to those groups of Seven Appointed Messengers. Those Dictations were later published in Volume III and recently in Volume IV.

Just as the embodiments as Georges Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and the Marquis de La Fayette opened the Door for America's Freedom. Godfré, Lotus, and Donald, under Beloved Saint Germain's guidance, opened the Door to the Ascended Masters' Octave of Light and this "I AM" Instruction. The three Ballards were the only "Accredited Messengers of Saint Germain". In the beginning of the Group Activities there were Seven Appointed Messengers. When invited, they would travel to the "I AM" Groups and give classes. Some of theses appointed messengers, members of one of the original groups of seven, were Paul Stickle, William Cassier, Muriel Bliss and Mrs. Petit. There were field workers like Earl Thomas (mostly in Canada), Ann and Mike Gallagher, Ida Ingraham, Paul Center, Zora Swingly, and Dr. McClenathen of Florida. The latter toured with wire recordings of the Dictations. This was before the Dictations were available to the Students on record.

Helen Smith from Philadelphia was one of the people in these early small groups. She had many wonderful experiences. Helen told me that Mr. Ballard would sit in the doorway and talk to those seated in the small living room. He told of his experiences and the Laws Saint Germain had taught him.

The Ballards were invited to Philadelphia for a Class. After this Class they returned to their home in Chicago. Later they were invited to Philadelphia for a second Class. They planned at this time to go on a cross country tour. The Ballards were two months behind on their rent, so it took courage and confidence in their own "Presence" to go to Philadelphia under such circumstances. Beloved Saint Germain could have supplied the money, but He knew He must let His messengers apply the Law. The Love Gifts from one Class enabled them to go on to the next Class. Some time later Beloved Saint Germain told them that He could now protect them since they had proven themselves. When Mrs. Ballard realized that they had not been protected, but were relying on their own "I AM Presence", she was very surprised.

Helen Smith said that the Dictation in Volume III, page 335, dated November 29, 1934, by Beloved Saint Germain, was given in the second Class in Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day. From there the Ballards made their first tour of the United States of America. I do not know how many stops they made, but I did hear that they stopped in West Palm Beach where May and Harley Da Camara had a group.

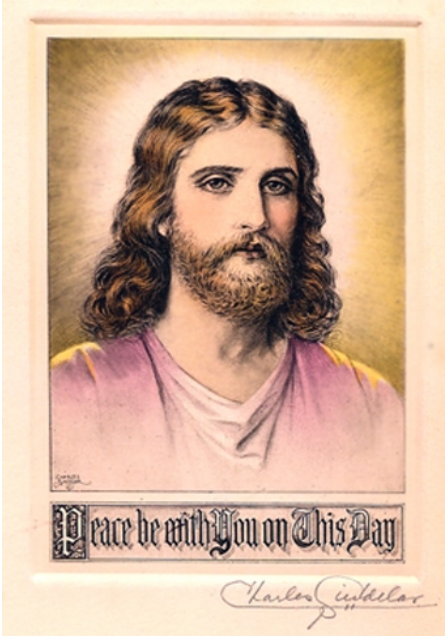
The Ballards' plans included going to Los Angeles. A lady from Los Angeles had offered to make arrangements for this Class. While they were holding a Class in Texas, she wrote to them saying she did not want the responsibility of handling the Class. Mr. and Mrs. Ballard decided to handle it themselves. They arrived in Los Angeles on January 1, 1935, and made all the necessary arrangements including the announcements. The Class began in Trinity Hall. But, as the attendance became greater and greater, they had to change locations five times to find adequate space for that first Class.

Casa de Rosas, 2600 South Hoover Street – Los Angeles

In Los Angeles during the 1930's, there was a healing group of about fifty people meeting at 2600 South Hoover Street. Among the members were Baird T. Spalding, author of the books "*Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East*," and Charles and Pearl Sindelar. Baird T. Spalding discovered *Unveiled Mysteries*, and the entire group read this book. When the Ballards came to Los Angeles in January, 1935, everyone in the healing group went to this first Class.

After the first meeting Charles Sindelar said he would not go back because there was no picture of Jesus. Baird said that perhaps they did not have a good picture of Jesus and asked Charles to send them a copy of his etching.

The next day Sindelar's well known picture of Jesus, *"The Head of Christ"*, was sent to the Ballards.



At the end of the meeting Baird deliberately went to the far aisle. Pearl wondered what in the world he was doing. Baird then called back to Charles in a loud voice. Of course, Mr. Ballard heard this and immediately said,

"Oh, is Charles Sindelar in the room"?

Charles acknowledged that he was present and Mr. Ballard asked him to come to the platform. Then Mr. Ballard thanked him for the picture of Jesus and asked if they could use it in their meetings. Charles Sindelar agreed that it would be fine for them to use the picture of Jesus in the Instruction. Then Mr. Ballard asked Charles to try to bring forth a companion picture of Saint Germain. Charles responded that he would try, but that he really needed to see Him. He did try to portray Saint Germain, but without satisfaction.

Charles J. Sindelar

Charles J. Sindelar was a wonderful man who had many fascinating events takes place in his life. Here is just a glimpse of that life including the story behind the portrait of Beloved Jesus, "*The Head of Christ.*"

When Charles was a young man, there was a neighbor with whom he often conversed. They would sit on her porch and talk. He enjoyed tremendously having her as a friend. One day she

invited him to the church she attended. He found his friend was on the platform and then he learned she was Mary Baker Eddy.

Early in his career, Charles had been able to master the art of oil painting as well as water color, pastels and etching, which is most unusual for an artist. In these early days, he made the trademarks of Aunt Jemima Hot Cakes, Prudential Life, Victor's the "Master's Voice" for RCA, New York Life, the Oneida Community Silver Company and Quaker Oats. By the time he was seventeen, he had made a fortune. Seemingly, everything that Charles touched or was a part of has been sustained. When Beloved Jesus asked that the magazine, *The Voice of the "I AM,"* come forth, Charles did the art work for several years and it is still sustained.

Pearl Tinker was a Grecian dancer. As a young girl of fifteen, she went on a cross-country tour with her mother. At a performance in one of the eastern theaters, Pearl went on stage and just froze. The manager and her mother finally got her off stage. They asked her what had happened. She said,

"I just saw the man I'm going to marry."

"How do you know"? They asked,

"You haven't even met him."

"Well, he is talking to someone I know." It was Charles Sindelar that she had seen.

She did meet him and they were to be married, but then he called it off. A friend had invested Charles' money and lost it, making Charles a pauper. This was the reason he had called off the marriage. Pearl said,

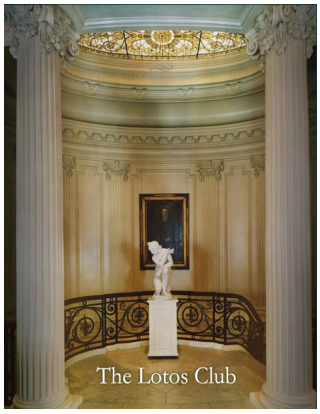
"I am not marrying you for your money." He had thought she was.

"I am marrying you because I love you."

So they were married. Pearl was a popular actress in New York City starring in drama and comedy-drama for many years. She even had her own sketch in vaudeville.

Outside Lotos Club

Menu with Mark Twain



Entrance

The Lotos Club in New York City invited Charles to do the art work for the menus for the Dinners they had once a month. These Dinners honored well known people. One of the honored guests was Fritz Kreisler; one was Enrico Caruso. These distinctive menus are probably the most beautiful menus in existence. Charles produced these menus for twenty-six years; in the beginning

with his brother Tom, continuing alone after his brother's death. Warren Sinex had many of those Lotos Club menus and has given them to the Library of Freedom.

Charles and another young man had an art studio. One day a lady came in and asked to make an appointment to have a portrait done. Charles was out so the other young man took the information. He gave the information to Charles when he returned, saying,

"Oh, she is very ugly. You had better make it $10,000 so she won't have it done."

Well, Charles called up the lady. She came in to discuss it and agreed to pay $10,000 for it. Charles did the painting and he and Pearl were invited to the lady's estate for the unveiling. When they pulled down the drape, it was a painting of a beautiful woman. The husband of this woman began to cry saying,

"That is the way I see my wife."

About a year later, Pearl and Charles were retiring and going to California. This lady heard that they were leaving, so she said,

"Before you leave, come by to see me."

When they went to see the lady, the maid escorted them into the drawing room. The lady was standing by the portrait. She looked exactly like the painting.

"If my husband and the artist see me that way," she said, "then I can be that way."

With determination and visualization, a Life Stream manifested Perfection.

Pearl and Charles then cames out west. Pearl developed a health problem and that is how they got into seeking different avenues of healing. It was in November of 1929 while they were in the healing group with Baird Spalding, that Charles had the experiences leading to the painting of the Master Jesus' portrait, "*The Head of Christ.*"

It started one night when Charles woke up at about two o'clock in the morning. Standing at his bedside was the Radiant Presence of the Master Jesus. He awakened his wife, Pearl, to ask her if she could see what he saw. She could not and told him it was only a vivid dream. He could not sleep any more. The next night at the same hour the Visitation was repeated. This continued for twenty-one nights. During this time he could neither eat, nor work, nor sleep. He was greatly disturbed. He had never been a spiritual or religious person. He had simply lived the Truth of God's Law with great honestly and honor. But why was the Master Jesus appearing to him?

After this three week experience, he sought help from Maude Rockwell, the leader of the Unity Center in Los Angeles. After hearing him relate his experience, she told him that he was meant to give that Vision to the world. This had not occurred to him. She told him,

"You have painted the Presidents of the United States of America. You are one of the outstanding artists of our day. Why wouldn't the Master Jesus come to you for a painting of Himself?"

He hurried home and started to sketch the figure from his memory. Before the paint was dry the

door bell rang. In quickly putting away the picture in a drawer, he accidentally smudged the mouth in the picture. Since he was unable to satisfactorily restore the damage, he was again in a highly nervous state.

The Sindelars went again to see Maude Rockwell and told her about the situation. She said,

"You and Pearl go out to dinner where there is lovely music. Just relax."

So they did and about halfway through the evening Charles said,

"Pearl, come on. Let's go home."

Pearl knew that the Master Jesus would be coming. Charles went right into his studio and Pearl retired to her bedroom. When she awakened about five in the morning, she went into the studio. Charles told her that the Master Jesus has just left after coming about two in the morning. Charles said that he had just completed the mouth and that it was now correct.

Charles then sent a copy of this painting of Jesus the Christ to the Pope at the Vatican. The Pope replied with a beautiful letter of gratitude and appreciation. The Pope sent a picture of himself and enclosed a rosary which Pearl and Charles mounted and framed. It was on display in their home.

Charles and Pearl stayed in the Activity devoting all of their time to It. When the Ballards made their first trip to San Francisco in May 1935, the Sindelar's went with them. Since Charles did not drive, he and Pearl were driven to San Francisco by their chauffer. The Ballards, their staff and the Sindelars all stayed at the Richelieu Apartments which were close to the Scottish Rite Temple where the Classes were held.

During this first visit to San Francisco was when the Browns, my parents (Brownie and Doris) and I, first saw Mr. and Mrs. Ballard. A few words about how we contacted the "IAM" Activity should be included here.

Doris, my mother, was working at a lovely and exclusive department in H. C. Capwells selling better dresses and fine furs in their salon in Oakland, California. Another lady working there was named Golda and she was studying the Truth of Life with her friend Frank Lee. We were in Christian Science at this time. Frank Lee gave my parents Baird Spalding's books on *"Life and Teachings of the Masters of the Far East."* Mrs. Ballard said later that the first three books were very true and authentic. The books have references to Beloved Master Jesus, and the beautiful lady referred to is Beloved Lady Master Nada.

In the autumn of 1934, Lee gave my parents a book called *Unveiled Mysteries*. They were thrilled with the teachings in *Unveiled Mysteries*. There were about ten people getting together weekly studying *Unveiled Mysteries*. When they learned that the Ballards were coming to San Francisco, the group went across the bay to attend the Class. This was in May 1935. It began on Friday and went through the second Sunday. Since the first meeting of this Class was during the afternoon, my father could not attend due to his employment. He asked my mother to go and "see if it is real." Mother and I went to the Friday afternoon opening meeting in the Scottish Rite Temple on Sutter and Van Ness Streets, the entrance being on Sutter. We met in a small auditorium downstairs. At this meeting Mr. Ballard wore a white suit and Mrs. Ballard, a white dress. Max Gyzi made the introductions. Betty Mundy took down the Dictation, and handled book sales – *Unveiled Mysteries* and *The Magic Presence* (just released) were for sale.

After the meeting people could go up to Mr. and Mrs. Ballard to ask questions. Mother and I went up after the meeting and she asked Mr. Ballard,

"Is that the body that the panther guarded"? He threw back his head and laughed. He said,

"Yes." Then he added,

"And these are the Hands that assisted David Lloyd to the Ascension."

My mother was thrilled. When she returned home she said,

"Oh, Brownie, it's real, it's real"!

We went that night and to all of the other meetings. It was tremendous. The feeling that permeated my being was so celestial it simply cannot be expressed in words. The realization that the Truth of Life was here had come over me as the most transcendent experience of this embodiment. I hope everyone will have this experience. Then you will understand my simple statement: "It was tremendous."

Scottish Rite Temple – San Francisco

In that small auditorium in the Scottish Rite Temple at my very first Class, the first time I saw the Ballards, Mr. Ballard made two points which I still clearly remember. There was a light bulb burning on the platform near Mr. Ballard which he covered with a dark cloth so you could not see the light anymore. He then told us that this is what we have done to the Light in our bodies. Now we must use the Violet Consuming Flame to consume that which we have imposed on the Points of Light in our bodies so the Light will shine through. He explained that we have entered a new cycle, the Cycle of the Violet Ray. Beloved Saint Germain is the Ruler of the Violet Ray and He is the Ruler of the earth for the next ten thousand years. He brought forth this "I AM" Activity through Guy W. Ballard, whose nom de plume was *"Godfré Ray King."*

The other thing I remember was that at every Class, Mr. Ballard would give the Explanation of the Chart just as it is printed in *The Voice of the "I AM"* February 1937. Every time anyone reads this explanation of the Chart, I hear Beloved Daddy talking. He would always give it word for word, exactly the same. Mrs. Ballard talked about the Activity of Beloved Jesus and she explained the old saying, "as ye sow, so shall ye reap." Mr. Ballard would talk about energy. Beloved Saint Germain had stated that "thought and feeling are the only Creative Forces in the Universe." Mr. Ballard

explained this several times saying that when we think and feel (and we are always thinking and feeling), to make it constructive. Ten to fifteen percent of the energy is in the thought, so most is in the feeling; therefore, control your feelings.

Beloved Daddy, as always in His Humble and Loving Manner, shared with us that when he came onto the platform, he left his human personality outside and offered himself to the Ascended Masters as a channel for Their Outstanding to mankind and the world.

We send our Greatest Gratitude to Beloved Saint Germain for giving us this understanding of the "Mighty I AM Presence" and the Violet Consuming Flame by which we can cleanup ourselves and all humanity. Our Eternal Gratitude also flows to Mr. and Mrs. Ballard for their strength to hold to the Light and to be clear channels for Beloved Saint Germain to use.

This first Class in the Scottish Rite Temple started in a small auditorium downstairs, but quickly the number of people increased requiring a larger auditorium upstairs.

Hudson car

My father had a *Hudson car*. Donald loved to drive so he asked if he could drive my father's car. At that time the Classes were in the afternoon from two until four and in the evening from eight until ten. Beloved Daddy came out and he was a little concerned because "*Donny Boy*" was not back yet. Soon Donald returned. It was interesting to have Donald drive our car.

During that Class, the only books we had were *Unveiled Mysteries* and *The Magic Presence*. In those early Classes there was a Dictation usually on the last Sunday. Whoever attended at least one of the meetings the first nine days was given a little ticket. You had to have that little ticket to get in on Sunday. Some of those Dictations are in the early *Voices*. At the close of the Class, everyone there was given three mimeographed Dictations. One was Beloved Lady Master Nada's letter on Service; one was Saint Germain's twentieth Discourse from Volume III; and the one by Beloved Jesus given in Volume III that you read daily. It is dated December 5, 1932. Beloved Jesus said to read it daily. I know that Pearl Sindelar read that Discourse every day after coming into the Activity.

Earlier I mentioned that Charles Sindelar was not satisfied with his drawing of Beloved Saint Germain. He felt that he needed to see Beloved Saint Germain. One day the Ballards, the Sindelars and the staff all met in a room in the Richelieu Apartment House. Mrs. Ballard placed them all in a circle and asked them to become very quiet. She said she would ring a bell to call Saint Germain to come so Charles could see Him. She rang the bell. In the stillness that followed Charles burst out laughing. Pearl said later that she was so embarrassed she wanted to drop through the floor. This is what had happened. Saint Germain had appeared to Charles and talked to him, saying,

"Oh, Charles, you have me too fat here and too thin here."

Charles had laughed when Saint Germain said that to him.

In making the drawing of Beloved Saint Germain, every time Charles had to see Him, Mr. Ballard needed to be there. At the end of the May 1935 Class in San Francisco, the Ballards brought the Sindelars on the platform and presented Charles' picture of Beloved Saint Germain. That is how we got the companion picture to Beloved Jesus.

After the Class, we (the Browns) went on vacation to Denver. We made the effort and had the privilege of reading those three Discourses every day. When we came back, we met a group at the Metaphysical Library. We rented a small room where we could read and study *The Magic Presence.*

The Ballards returned in February 1936 to San Francisco. Following that Class we have a larger group in a metaphysical library in Oakland. San Francisco established the beginning of their meetings in small groups in homes, and then they gathered together at a central location, 133 Powell Street. They were many years at that location.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, during that period from 1935 through 1939, covered the United States every six months. Paul Stickle came every six months. Bill Cassier came at least once a year. Mike and Ann Gallagher, Earl Thomas and others came to San Francisco and they came to Oakland. We went to all those meetings. We were being charged continually, so to speak, with the Activity of the "I AM." It was so tremendous when you think about that. All together there were seven Classes in San Francisco with Mr. and Mrs. Ballard from 1935 through the Spring of 1938. In the Fall of 1938 and the Spring and Fall of 1939 the Classes were held on the Oakland side.

We attended all the Classes held in San Francisco as well as those held in the Los Angeles area; the Pan Pacific Class that was held one spring and all the Christmas and July Classes. One year we made eight trips back and forth to Los Angeles. There was also one year when the Ballards went into all the different Sanctuaries in Los Angeles area and held meetings. Harry Rogers had one meeting in which the 100% Students numbered about 1,500 and Georgia Tripp Davis played the organ. Ratana's group had about 3,000 in attendance and the Sindelar's group had several hundred.

A protocol pattern for the platform had developed using a chair in the center for the Master and a chair on each side. But one group did not follow the pattern choosing instead to just have a chair and a small table. Perhaps they just did not quite get the feeling of it and that is why they are no longer in the Activity.

The Lanning group of South Hope is the only remaining Sanctuary where both Beloved Daddy and Beloved Mama were on the platform. It is still a Focus. Stella Becker has been the Sponsor there for many years and had much to do with making the 1990 Thanksgiving Class held at the Biltmore so wonderful. It was a great privilege of being there and going to that early Focus whose Blessing is sustained and ever-expanding.

Shrine Auditorium – Los Angeles

The Ballards held Classes at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles every six months. They would be at the Shrine for Christmas, during the Seven Sacred Weeks, and in July for a ten day period over the Teton time.

Charles Sindelar was under Beloved Jesus' Ray. During the summer of 1935, Beloved Jesus conveyed to Charles that there should be a monthly magazine called *The Voice of the "I AM."* Charles told Mr. Ballard who said that Beloved Saint Germain had said nothing about it. About six months later, the Ballards were holding Classes in the Eastern United States. Mr. Ballard called Charles and told him that Beloved Saint Germain had said it was time to start the magazine, *The Voice of the "I AM."* The first issue was in February 1936.

The building at 2600 South Hoover, called the Casa de Rosas Building, has been designated as a historical building which means that it will be preserved. To me, they qualified it as a historical building because *The Voice of the "I AM"* had its beginnings there. Around a flower garden there were several buildings. On the corner was an office and sales counter and the room where they had their group meetings each day and their healings at noon time. Across the yard was the Sindelar's living quarters and studio. The building next to that on the south side of the yard was the press where *The Voice of the "I AM"* was printed.

At the first meeting I ever attended at the Sindelar Studio, I was sitting in the frony row. Beloved Mama had always told us that in wearing scarf's around the head not to ever wear them by tying them in back as the peasants did. She said to bring the scarf from the back and tie it in front. I had washed my hair that day and covered my curlers by wrapping the scarf as she had said. Charles Sindelar was talking to the group, looking out over the audience from a circular platform on the southeast side of the room. All of a sudden, looking down at me, he said,

"Hello, Aunt Jemina."

I felt like I was as red as a beet. I was so embarrassed. It had surprised me so. I learned later that Aunt Jemina was one of the trademarks that he had developed.

At the sales counter in the office you could buy all sizes of pictures of the Masters Saint Germain and Jesus, from stamp size up to 2x4 feet. Charles would autograph these pictures. The monthly magazine, *The Voice of the "I AM,"* sold for twenty-five cents a single copy or $2.50 for a yearly subscription.

After the July 1936 Shrine Class in Los Angeles, I bought my own books. I had saved enough money to pay for the books. It was so tremendous, that Shrine Class: the huge organ, the largest auditorium in the world. That first Shrine Class wasn't filled like the last Shrine Class. There was standing room only in 1939.

We have a picture in *The Voice of the "I AM"* of Beloved Lady Master Nada wielding a sword with an Easter Sunrise picture below. When that picture came out, Beloved Daddy said from the platform,

"She is Perfect even to Her finger tips."

The picture is in *The Voice of the "I AM"* November 1936.

In the beginning or a little further along in the Shrine Classes, Beloved Mama would always have a harp solo before Violet Fairchild or Catherine Rogers sang. Remember, we did not have decrees in those days. One of Beloved Daddy's favorite songs was *"La Golondrina"* and another one was *"One Alone from The Desert Song."* One day, as a surprise for Beloved Daddy, Beloved Mama made an arrangement of *One Alone* for the harp and played it on the platform.

Another time in Los Angeles I recall Beloved Mama talked to the Daughters of Light and Beloved Daddy talked to the Minute Men. At one of the Daughters of Light meetings, I think it was Ratana's, she would answer different questions and different little things brought to her attention. I remember someone asked about taking soda after meals to help with the little tummy situation. Beloved Mama said she did not think it would hurt anything to take a half a teaspoon of soda. It would alkalize the system.

Beloved Mama cautioned us not to wear the color "shocking pink" because it is too much on the red tone. The red on our planet is not constructive. On another planet it might be different, but on our planet, the tone color is gold. The vibration is gold. Also, the tone of the planet is F below middle C. That is why Beloved Mama mentioned it. So many women's voices are so high it is like a shattering, hard vibratory action. A lower tone is more harmonious and controlling of the situation.

Also in the early days we were never permitted to wear open-toed shoes. They always had to be

closed. The shoe had to enclose the whole foot for protection. Circumstances changed so Beloved Mama changed, but in the early days we always had to wear the enclosed shoe to protect the foot.

Beloved Mama gave us instruction from the Inner or the outer depending upon the situation. She asked us not to use nail polish because of the lacquer of the beetle used in making it. I think that now nail polish is synthetically produced and they do not use the beetles any more.

During the Shrine Class of July 1936, Louisa Chadbourne (Georgia Davis' aunt who was one of five sisters and one brother, all dedicated to the "I AM" Activity), my parents and I had the privilege of sitting on the right hand side of the main aisle close to the front. The first row was Captain and Mrs. Self and one of the other students from the San Francisco area. The second row was Charles and Pearl Sindelar, Don and Marjorie, Louisa and Charles Starrat. My parents and I sat in the third row just behind them. What marvelous experiences.

After the July 1936 Shrine Class, the Ballards came again to the San Francisco area in August 1936. At that time we decided to go out and rent a place on our own. We rented a dance studio on the second floor across from the Grand Lake Theater at Grand Avenue and Santa Clara in Oakland. We chose Tuesday night to have the meeting. All we had was a phonograph and our only music was Fritz Kreisler's "*Caprice Viennois.*" Irene Hudson was living in our area at that time. She had been a member of some organization in which she had handled group activities. So my parents asked her to take the meeting. By that time we had the Outline. In those days when we charged the gas belts, we always raised our hands, making a cup, and charged it down into the structure of earth.

I remember that dance studio. We were only there a few months until we found another location at 160 Grand Avenue. It had a little office up front, a second room we could use as a Reading Room, and a large auditorium that would seat about fifty people. We brought furnishings for the outer rooms and folding chairs for the Sanctuary.

My mother was working at the time so she had different people fill in for her at the Reading Room. They did not always seem to be dependable, so Brownie said,

"Doris, you will just have to stop work and be here every day so someone will be here."

At that time we called it the "Home of the 'I AM'." We didn't realize that we should have the "I AM" first. Doris quit working and gave full attention to the reading Room.

We rented the location at 160 Grand Avenue for about a year and a half. We had been paying $25 a month and it went up to $50. It was quite a bit at that time we thought, but thanks to the "Presence," we met all obligations. We located another place, a woman's club, at 124 Montecito. We stayed there for five years. We tried to buy it at the close of that period, but the owners did not want to sell. That is when we moved to the present location, 3255 Grand Avenue. There is no other building touching our building; it is all by itself. We moved here May 30, 1943.

While the Ballards traveled around the United States holding Classes, Charles Sindelar stayed in Los Angeles printing *The Voice of the "I AM"* every month. Producing the *Voice* required many hours of attention. A gentleman and his wife, friends of the Sindelars, were helping the Sindelars as proof readers. One evening, after many hours of concentration, Charles said,

"Pearl, let us break for a while. Let us go down Olvera Street to have a change of scenery."

Since it was late, the stores were closed. The four of them just strolled down Olvera Street window shopping. A Mexican peon came up to Charles and handed him something. Charles showed it to Pearl then turned his attention back to the Mexican peon – but he had disappeared. The next day when Beloved Daddy told Charles that Saint Germain had come to him the previous evening; Charles replied that Saint Germain had not come to him. Then Beloved Daddy told him that the Mexican peon had been, indeed, Saint Germain and that the object Charles had been given was the Acceptance Symbol into the Great White Brotherhood. Beloved Mama told us that when Charles Sindelar made His Ascension that she had placed the Symbol in his casket before cremation so it could go with him all the way.

In Beloved Jesus dictation of January 1, 1937, published in *The Voice of the "I AM"* February 1937 (page 10), He diverted from the dictation saying that He wanted to compliment and thank Mr. Charles Sindelar for fulfilling His Request and establishing *The Voice of the "I AM."*

At one Shrine Class Charles Sindelar stayed at his studio to finish some artwork. He did not come to Class that night so Don was sitting next to Pearl in the row in front of us. At that time whenever we were having Dictations, an usher stood at every door so no one could go in or out during the Dictation. Beloved Daddy announced that Beloved Jesus was going to dictate. She wanted him to come if he could. Well, Don made the phone call, but Charles answered the phone saying, "I'm busy" and hung up tight away without giving Don a chance to deliver the message.

However, Charles had received a prompting to get up, get dressed and put on his white suit. When he walked out, a cab was waiting for him. When he arrived at the Shrine and started to pay the cab driver, he has told, "It is all taken care of." Just before he walked into the Class, Beloved Daddy announced that Charles Sindelar was on his way and would the ushers, when he came, allow him to come in. I thought that was a tremendous manifestation of the Hand of God clearing the way for Charles. Beloved Jesus had told him ahead of time.

In the middle

Lotus and Godfré across the Bay of San Francisco

In the left side

In February 1937 Beloved Daddy held a Class in San Francisco. He crossed the bay to Oakland for the first time and we had a single meeting in the Women's City Club on Alice Street. At that meeting Beloved Daddy just talked about the Chart.

Again the next year in February 1938 there was a Class in San Francisco. Before this Class there was a Minute Men Meeting in Oakland at the Auditorium Building near the end of Lake Merritt. Mike Gallagher, Ben Ensor from San Diego, and my father arranged it so Beloved Daddy could talk to the Minute Men. They placed announcements in the theaters and businesses throughout the city. They were blue and white placards announcing: The Cosmic Moment is here and we invite you to come and hear this lecture.

For the first time, there were about 500 men brought together at this meeting. At that time the

Masters did not dictate right away. The Masters waited until the people had been attuned a meeting or two, so that they would understand what was taking place. This time, however, a Dictation was given right away. Betty Mundi had not come because Daddy did not think there would be a Dictation. Someone else took the Dictation. This first Dictation given in Oakland was by Beloved Master Nada and is published in the *Voice of the "I AM"* September 1986.

During one of the San Francisco Classes, Beloved Daddy and Beloved Mama went over to Muir Woods. Mighty Victory dictated and He drew from Venus the Currents of Light Energy through those redwoods all the way to New York City. Later in 1938, when the song "*Rainbow Rays*" came out, it was sung for the first time in New York City. The newspapers even recorded an aurora in the atmosphere over New York City. Beloved Daddy and Beloved Mama also went out to Cliff House to draw the Power of Light and Protection into that area for San Francisco. Beloved Mighty Victory said that when the changes come, San Francisco will stand.

One time we were in the Scottish Rite Temple at about three o'clock in the afternoon. I was sitting in the back row at the time and I felt this tremendous vibration. I actually assumed that it was a heavy street car passing by. That night Beloved Daddy mentioned that there was to have been an earthquake in San Francisco about three o'clock that afternoon, but that the Light had diverted the energy out into the ocean. I think it was the next day that the news reported a great release of energy out in the ocean.

Later, Beloved Mama was in Chicago after Beloved Daddy's Ascension when there were earthquakes tremors coming up from Central America. When they got to the Tehachapi Mountains, Beloved Mama flew out to San Francisco and drew the Power of Light so they would not touch farther north. Soon after that the tremors went out in the ocean and released the energy.

Another time in San Francisco, there was a hotel strike against all first and second rate hotels. The only hotel where the Ballards could get rooms was the Cartwright which was considered a third rate but nice hotel. That one Class all the calls went forth to stop the strike and those hotels opened right away. The three Browns, the Oakland Sponsors, went to the Cartwright Hotel and talked to Beloved Daddy in the lobby. In the early days it was always Beloved Daddy that interviewed and consulted with the Sponsors and group leaders. Beloved Mama was busy with the publications and the typing.

There are several other activities in San Francisco that I remember. One is the banquet on Powell Street across from Sears. It was up a hill and we all went there for a Youth Breakfast. The members of the Staff were seated throughout the Student Body so that the Students could have the blessing. That was when we learned that you do not divide the Staff; you do not divide the Student Body. Always, the Staff was to stay close around Beloved Daddy and Beloved Mama. We are learning something all the time.

During this period of time, Beloved Daddy and Mama would come over to the meetings in the Sanctuary. One time, at a Daughters of Light meeting, Beloved Mama brought Lotus Jordan up on the platform. She raised her up and said,

"This is our first Daughter of Light in Oakland."

It was quite a thrill for us.

Another time with Beloved Mama, mother and I both were on the platform. As you know, the pattern is to have two chairs, one on each side, and one chair for the Master in the center. Beloved

Mama was at the microphone. My mother was seated in one of the side chairs and Beloved Mama told me,

"You can sit in the center chair. Sit on Nada's lap."

That was a tremendous treat to have such a blessing.

In 1938, Cecil Stokes (pronounced ses' - el) had this aurora tone that Beloved Mama and Daddy had us all go see. When they played certain keys, these great beautiful colors would all manifest. We bless Cecil Stokes although he did not stay with the Activity. He was the one that asked permission to make recordings of Daddy's Invocations and Benedictions. He did get one Dictation by Mighty Victory, the only one we have recorded with Beloved Daddy's voice. Bless his life stream for recording these for his personal use and for giving them to Beloved Mama.

The first Class in Oakland was in August 1938 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium on Lake Street overlooking Lake Merritt. Reservations had been made at the Lake Merritt Hotel, engaging the whole top floor in order to accommodate a Staff that had grown to twelve people. All the reservations for the ladies were on the south; for the men, on the north. The two front apartments had cooking facilities which delighted Beloved Daddy who loved to cook. He loved to walk down to the great big city market across from Capwells. One of his favorite foods was parsnips. This was the first I had ever heard of parsnips. We also had a piano put in Beloved Daddy's apartment so that he would have something to play when the Music came through. The day they were due, I remember my father called up the Hotel to learn if the Ballards had arrived. The desk clerk said that they had not arrived but that their 33 trunks had arrived.

At that first Class, Beloved Daddy noted Lake Merritt. He said that the lake's purifying activity helps Oakland so much. The Class went from Friday to the second Sunday like all the Classes at that time. One time during the Class, I took a time exposure of Beloved Daddy and Mama. This was my first attempt, so they had to stand very still for ten seconds to accommodate my little old box camera. We still have that to this day; not the camera, the picture.

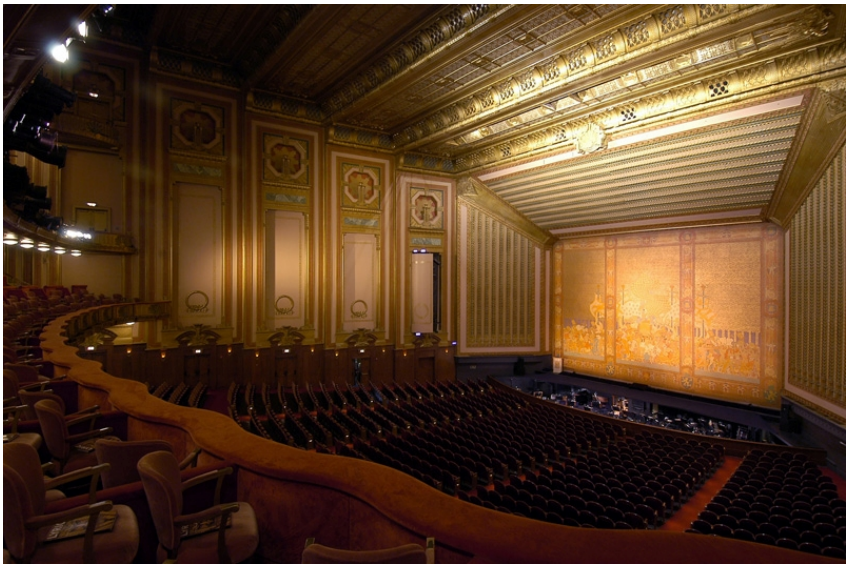
During this Class there were radio broadcasts. The cost was $3,000. The bill for $3,000 was presented at the end of the Class to the Sanctuary Sponsor. My parents were very surprised. They didn't realize they were supposed to assume that obligation, but they did it through a lot of decrees. Doris said after that nothing was impossible. "*The Call compels the Answer,*" and so they got it paid which was a miracle.

We had a Class every night of the ten days except the first Saturday. The Auditorium had been booked before hand for that night and was not available to us. That night happened to be Harry Rogers birthday, so a birthday party was held in Beloved Mama's apartment overlooking Lake Merritt. That Saturday night in Beloved Mama's apartment was the marvelous first Dictation of Beloved Hercules preceded by Beloved Saint Germain's introduction of This Great Cosmic Being. Beloved Saint Germain told us that the *Great Elohim Hercules* had come forth to dictate for the *first time in 326, 000 years* – to the day. The Dictation and introduction are in *The Voice of the "I AM"* May 1941.

During the Class, a Musical was held in San Francisco in the Sanctuary at 133 Powell Street. Beloved Daddy asked me to secure three bouquets – one for Beloved Mama, one for Catherine Rogers and one for the organist, Virginia La Ferrara. Beloved Daddy gave me four five-dollar bills, but in those days bouquets only came to three-fifty. I gave him the change back but he told me to just keep it. That extra five-dollar bill – well, I still have it today. Sentimentally, I have kept it all these

years.

We took the whole Staff of twelve to the airport to place Beloved Mama and Betty Mundy on a flight to the next Class. Beloved Daddy always went with the two cars, but Beloved Mama and Betty would go ahead to prepare the way for the next Class. We were all out at the Oakland Airport and we took many pictures of that farewell. The United Airlines plane was a very small plane which held about twenty people. Beloved Mama had a beautiful brown beaver coat, brown shoes, turquoise blue turban, a pink Angora sweater and a pink flower. Daddy had a camel hair coat and a tan hat. I have one picture of all the Browns with them at that time.



Civic Opera House – Chicago

The first Class held in Chicago was in October, 1938. It was held in the Civic Opera House two or three blocks from the Chicago Sanctuary. It was a tremendous Class. The Class had been arranged by Paul Stickle and by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Potter, the Chicago Sponsors. The Chicago Sanctuary was located at 30 East Adams and later they purchased 176 West Washington which is still the "I AM" Temple of Chicago.

The next Class in Oakland was in February, 1939, during which time we had a Youth Breakfast at the Lake Merritt Hotel. Beloved Daddy told us that Lady Master Nada is 5' 2" tall, but that little Najah is only 4' 11" tall. I had the privilege of introducing Beloved Daddy at the breakfast and Lady Master Najah dictated. The Class was held in the Auditorium Theater at the base of Lake Merritt.

On February 15th after the Class, Beloved Daddy and Mama came to the Oakland Reading Room for a meeting. Doris said to Beloved Daddy that she hoped Beloved Jesus would be dictating that night because she was always so close to Him. Beloved Daddy said to Doris,

"I think you will not be disappointed."

She was not. It was that wonderful Dictation where Jesus mentions the bridges going north and south and east and west from Treasure Island, published in *The Voice of the "I AM"* April 1939.

Another happy experience during 1938 and 1939 was Don and Marjorie having different friends in their home. A group of young people I was privileged to associate with included Georgia and Curt Davis, Landon Davis, Jack Koster and Elfrieda Hopff. Don and Marjorie had us over for dinner

many times in their home in Southern California. Curt and Landon could talk with Beloved Daddy any time for he loved both of those boys so much.

One time between Classes we went to see Beloved Daddy and Mama in their apartment on the ninth floor of the Biltmore. Beloved Daddy was getting dinner ready and he was wearing a pink checkered apron, the checks being about one inch square. Beloved Mama was sitting at the breakfast table typing away on things that were coming through. Those happy little gems. It was such a joy to again be on the ninth floor of the Biltmore during the Thanksgiving Class of 1990.

Louisa was a beautiful person, inside and out. She was wonderful with the Youth. A group of us were together quite a bit during the Shrine Classes. Louisa had us over to her home for dinners and get-togethers. It was a tremendous Blessing that she gave us. At the July 1939 Shrine Class Don asked Beloved Daddy if this group of friends could have a reserved section on the third row. So on the left-hand side was reserved a whole row for us – Elfrieda, Jack, Georgia, Curt, Landon, Marjorie, Don and myself. We all sat together which was a very beautiful, happy time.

Fireworks

Don loved "*fireworks.*" One time we were invited over to the Sindelars to see fireworks. So after the Fourth of July Class, we went over to see all the flares and all the fancy, expensive displays. Many people were there including, Georgia and Curt, Landon, my parents, Don and Marjorie, and Charles and Pearl. Beloved Mama was seated and she said,

"What time is it, Papa"?

He looked at his watch and said that it was midnight. She said,

"Oh, we've got to go. We promised to meet Beloved Saint Germain at midnight."

That is a little gem I cherish to this day.

An outstanding day for us at the 1939 Shrine Class was the day they had all of us come out of the auditorium and look at the sky. It was a miracle. I remember to this day that airplane. First he wrote in the sky: "I AM Presence." Then he drew a cross. It all stayed in place the entire time he was sky

writing.

Before the July 1939 Shrine Class, Beloved Saint Germain requested the replacement of Virginia La Ferrara and Catherine Rogers because of their talking viciously against the Ballards. They were released from the Staff and Beloved Daddy asked Frederick Landwehr to play for the Shrine Class. Frederick had been playing at an exclusive club, but he took a leave of absence to play the organ for the Shrine Class.

I remember that Marjorie Almond from Detroit, another friend and myself sat right by Frederick to watch his playing during that Class. He would come in early before Class and play all this beautiful music. During a recent conversation with Frederick, he reminded me that Beloved Daddy said many times at the Shrine Classes that anytime spent with your attention on anything but the "I AM Presence" is wasted time! In Volume VIII by the Great Divine Director, much is said about our attention.

After that Class, Beloved Daddy asked Frederick to take a leave of absence for six months to go on tour with them. Frederick accepted the offer and joined the tour. The first Class on this tour was Oakland, so we have felt very close to Frederick ever since that Class.

The third Class in Oakland was in August 1939. The Ballards stayed at the Claremont Hotel and the Class was again held in the Auditorium Theatre. Beloved Daddy invited my father to act as the announcer for the Class before the Ballards came on stage. He was to present the announcements and introduce the Ballards. It was tremendous. Afterwards, I was able to get a picture of Beloved Daddy shaking hands with my beloved father.

Back stage we had a room all in white with pink Amaryllis. It was very fragrant so Beloved Daddy said that it was like Nada's Room. One day back stage I took a picture of Beloved Daddy, Violet Fairchild, (the soloist), Betty Mundy, Grant Lewis and Frederick. God Bless them! They stood still ten seconds while my little Kodak box camera operated on time exposure. Grant and Frederick said they were so grateful to have that picture. Frederick said it is the only picture he has with Beloved Daddy. It is very beautiful.

This was the first time Frederick Landwehr was on tour with the Staff. Beloved Mama said that she was going to lock Beloved Daddy and Frederick up in a room in order to get the Music written. Beloved Daddy had all this music in his head and it had not been written down. The World's fair was in progress on Treasure Island so Beloved Mama took the Staff and went to the fair leaving Beloved Daddy and Frederick alone for the day.

Frederick said that he and Beloved Daddy started about eleven o'clock in the morning. Beloved Daddy would give him about four bars of Music, which Frederick would take down, and then fours bars of words. The first song was N°. 13: Lady Master Nada, followed by N°. 14: America, Our Beloved Land, N°. 15: The Goddess of Purity, N°. 16: Mighty Victory, and N°. 17: Beloved Leto.

They started N°. 18: The Great Divine Director. About that time Beloved Daddy said,

"What time is it, Frederick"?

Frederick answered, "It's five o'clock."

"Oh, we were supposed to meet Grant at the bank at three."

They went down to the bank and Grant was still waiting. He had waited until Beloved Daddy came before returning to the hotel. They went to the bank the next day.

Apparition of Glinda – The Good Fairy

The Wizard of Oz

The Emerald City

Across the street they discovered that a movie theater was showing "*The Wizard of Oz.*" Beloved Daddy and Frederick went in and watched the movie twice. Beloved Daddy loved that picture because so many of the manifestations were like the ones he had experienced with Beloved Saint Germain. He loved the *Good Fairy* who manifested in the Globe of Light. "*The Wizard of Oz*" was one of the first pictures made which contained anything spiritual and different.

Also during that August 1939 Class, there were many Crosses visible in the eastern sky at night. When I would wake up during the night, so often over the city these White Crosses could be seen. I cannot say why they were being manifested, but there were many of them in the Eastern United States as well as on the West Coast.

On the Tuesday afternoon of the Class, we had the *first Dictation by Beloved Quan Yin*. It is in *The Voice of the "I AM"* August 1941 and was given *on August 27, 1939*. At this Class I also took pictures of Beloved Daddy, Beloved Mama, and the Staff.

In the autumn of 1939, the Class in Washington, D.C., was held in two sessions. It was there in Washington that Beloved Daddy asked for his Sword of Blue Flame. That was the last Class in which he was on the platform. When this Class was over, Beloved Daddy and Beloved Mama returned to Los Angeles with Beloved Daddy now under the care of Rose, his nurse. They did not stay at Don and Marjorie's home, preferring a place of their own for reasons of privacy from the newspapers and so forth.

Beloved Daddy made His Ascension on December 31, 1939. The following day, January 1, 1940, the Shrine was packed—standing room only. The Shrine held about 5,000 people. When that Shrine Class opened, Don had on his cape and Beloved Daddy was not there. Everyone in the Auditorium knew something was different, but no one was expecting Beloved Mama's announcement that Beloved Daddy had made His Ascension the night before.

There were only about 100 people invited to Beloved Daddy's Ascension Service. We were very fortunate that all three Browns were invited because in some cases a gentleman sponsor was invited and not his wife; sometimes a lady and not her husband. We were so grateful to be part of that Service and to take part in Beloved Daddy's Ascension Activity. Beloved Mama had the casket

brought in by the men of the Staff who carried it into the corner of the living room. A blanket of gardenias covered the casket. Beloved Mama was talking with Beloved Daddy as she saw Him on the Inner with Saint Germain and Jesus, one on each side of Him. Beloved Mama described everything that happened, talking for ten or fifteen minutes. Frederick played every piece that Beloved Daddy ever brought through. At the close they took a motion picture showing everybody that was there.

Beloved Mama used to say so many times,

"You do not yet know who Papa really is. You look at him in the outer physical, but you have no idea."

Later, when Beloved Mama made her Ascension in 1971, Don and Virginia invited me to be present for which I am most grateful. I was the only one outside of the Staff and family that was present. All the beautiful flowers that came, the different arrangements, were very beautiful. Frederick and Don each had a part of the Service. The main Sanctuary of the "I AM" Temple of Chicago had a tremendous Service and the floral pieces were sent down there. Many of the Sanctuaries also sent floral pieces.

I always bless Mary Maneta for she was the one who had the professional photographers take the pictures of Beloved Daddy and Mama that we have today. Also, the ones in her home and the one in front of the mantel with Beloved Saint Germain's picture as Prince Ragoczy.

Beloved Mama had several beautiful dresses given to her. Henry Ford gave her one that cost fifteen-hundred dollars. Walter P. Chrysler of Chrysler Motors gave her one of elegant hand-made French lace that cost twenty-five-hundred dollars. One of these was the one she wore for the picture taken in front of the mantel.

Beloved Daddy loved the long trains. Sometimes Beloved Mama would day,

"Oh, Papa, couldn't we take off this train"?

And he would say, "But they are so elegant."

He just loved those trains. He would buy those wedding dresses and she would just flip those trains around, but when Beloved Daddy made His Ascension that was the last of the trains.

One year, after Beloved Daddy's Ascension, the Sindelars put up a huge flag pole in the front yard. Beloved Mama, Beloved Don, the Staff, and a military guard were there for the dedication and raising of the American flag on that pole. I took pictures of that Service.

In 1941 there was a Class in Washington, D.C. My parents and I were going to drive to this Class, but there was a change in my father's place of work and he was not able to leave. He said,

"Virgilyn, do you think you can do it"?

I answered, "Daddy, I will drive one town at a time or one city at a time."

It took us five days to go across the country. We had a heavy Packard car which at that time we could drive around 80 miles an hour in the open spaces. I lost ten pounds on that trip that I did not need to lose. Prior to that I had driven 400 miles from Los Angeles to Oakland which had given me

experience in driving long distances. Marie Lucas went with us and went to see her son who was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia.

This was in the springtime and we thought it would be better than the summer Class. But the humidity made it quite an experience. We would take a shower and be just as wet afterwards as before. We had never been around such humidity.

The area was in need of rain so Beloved Mama had us decree for rain in the Class. When we came out we surely could have used our umbrellas. It was a beautiful manifestation, a drenching rain.

In those days we all wore long dresses to both the afternoon and evening Classes. One day between the two Classes, Beloved Mama invited us out to eat. How we went up and down the streets in those long dresses I will never know. It is interesting to look back on some of those things and smile a bit.

After the Class when we were ready to head back to the West Cast, beloved Mama said,

"Oh, you must not come this far and not go up to see Valley Forge."

So we rerouted our trip and went to Philadelphia. Mr. Will Ekey took my mother and me to all the important places of history in Philadelphia; Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, etcetera.

General Washington's Vision

Then he directed us out to Valley Forge. It was a great privilege to be there where the Vision of America was given to our Beloved Daddy as George Washington.

We then headed on to Detroit on the way back to California and met a torrential rain storm. We got to Kansas City where heavy floods were developing. We were trying to stay ahead of the bad weather so we headed on to Denver on the longest leg of the trip, 808 miles. We left about ten o'clock in the morning, driving all day until almost midnight. We stopped for a thirty minute rest and then continued on to Denver arriving about five o'clock in the morning. After checking into the hotel, I went to move the car, but it would not start. It was out of gasoline. I had forgotten to allow for the climb into the mountains. It takes more gasoline in the mountains than in the flatlands.

In His Discourse dated September 1, 1932 (published in *The Voice of the "I AM"* August 1936) Beloved Saint Germain mentioned many changes that would be coming forth and He said that most of those changes would take place within ten years. That would have been by 1942. Our concept, at least mine, was that most everything would have been cleared up by 1942; that everybody would have been illumined and would have come into the "I AM" Activity. But it did not work that way. The Calls of the Students consumed so much discord that the cataclysmic and tidal wave activities have been delayed to protect as many as possible and until it is the right time for the One Mighty Stroke.

Nonetheless, in 1942 Beloved Mama moved from the West Coast inland to Santa Fe and several hundred Students sold everything and moved with her. They were welcomed by the Governor of New Mexico. Beloved Mama chose that location to establish a Focus because of a former ancient civilization. Later on she added the beautiful Lodge at Ouray, Colorado. The "I AM" School also moved to Santa Fe starting out in a little rented garage. Later the Students of Santa Fe acquired a beautiful Sanctuary with the School across the way.

Sometime in 1942 or 1943 Beloved Mama prompted us to be very careful in eating gluten steaks. They were made from wheat and they could be very congesting to the intestinal tract. Some people had many problems. There was a period of time when many Students were trying Walker's Diet where you eat only raw food. Saint Germain came forth in a Dictation and told us to have at least one cooked meal a day. If one eats only raw food while growing up and all his life, it is fine. But when your body has been adjusted to cooked foods, it is better to have at least one cooked meal a day.

In 1943 my father was with the Pullman Department of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, going from Oakland to Chicago and back. Therefore, we got to hear all the news which was coming forth regarding Beloved Mama and the different activities. He came back one trip and said to mother that Beloved Mama was going to have a four day Class in Chicago. The Oakland Students had just purchased a new building at 3355 Grand Avenue moving in on Memorial Day, May 30, 1943. My mother thought that there was much to talk over personally with Beloved Mama concerning certain things that were to be done. So we all went on the train to this four day Class which was extended to a ten day Class. My parents could not stay beyond the four days, so they put me in the Harrison Hotel. The Reading Room was at 30 East Adams and the Class was being held at the Auditorium Theater on Michigan Boulevard.

Because the Oakland Youth Group was dedicated to Archangel Michael, the one Dictation that stood out with me was the one by Archangel Michael. He said that the ground that we know as Soldier's Field is where He and the Great Divine Director had a Focus two and one-half million years ago.

In Volume III (Discourse XXIX) Beloved Arcturus tells us that Soldier's Field is Sacred Ground, a Sacred Altar of Divine Activity in the Western World. Every time I go to Chicago, I try to get a cab and go to the south entrance and walk into that Sacred Focus.

Soldiers' Field, June 21, 1926 – Chicago

It was at Soldier's Field during the Eucharistic Congress of 1926 that a special activity took place on that Sacred Ground. During that Congress, ten thousand children gave Cardinal Bonzano such an outpouring of love that he was able to complete the Inner Activity for his Ascension.

Cardinal Bonzano

After the Congress, Cardinal Bonzano returned to Italy and completed his Ascension there.

In October 1943 the first Youth Conclave was held at Wild Basin Lodge. Prior to that Conclave, there was a Class in Denver. So mother and I went to the Denver Class and stayed in the Cosmopolitan Hotel. At this Class Beloved Mama started blessing the Students. She would bring different ones up and give a blessing to the Life Stream by placing her hand on the head; the thumb on the center of the forehead with the fingers extending up over the top of the head.

The Youth Conclave at Wild Basin was quite an experience. We paid $12.00 for a whole week of room and board, but there was not much food. Breakfast would be one slice of French toast. Lunch was always raw carrots and I was not interested in raw carrots for a long time after that. Then dinner was very sparse. Once, I think, we had applesauce. When Kenny Root and Floyd Purdin came, they

had a car so we were able to go into town and buy some groceries. There were six of us girls in one cottage and we brought $27.00 worth of groceries. Later we bought $6.00 or $7.00 more. The miracle was that we had the opportunity to get the food while many others did not. Many of the Students really went hungry.

Lake Wild Basin Lodge

Beloved Mama and the Staff were there with us and it was so tremendous. We walked out every morning to the lake and had decrees at 6:00 a.m. in the afternoon there would be round tables and in the evenings would be the meetings.

I met Gloria Heidke Wilson during the bus ride to Loveland. Then we went by truck to Wild Basin. When we got there, we had to walk two miles to an outdoor cooking place. Well, I had worn riding boots and pants for the outing, but my dear feet—God Bless them—had great big blisters by the time I had walked those two miles over and back for our cook out. But it was a tremendous experience. Beloved Mama had put everyone in a circle and had given each one a Blessing for his or her Life Stream.

Patrick Mohan was able to attend the whole Conclave even though he was in the military. He assisted Beloved Mama and Beloved Saint Germain invited him to be on the Staff at that time.

Sometimes during the round tables, the questions and answers would get so intense that Beloved Mama would say,

"Let's open the windows and start decreeing."

Those Decrees were a magnificent experience.

One other problem was the shortage of water. The Lodge had old-fashioned tubs and only allowed two inches of water per person. The owner of the Wild Basin Lodge could not imagine people taking a bath every day. We learned to semi-rough it, so to speak.

Cheley Camp

The next Youth Conclave in September 1944 was in Cheley Camp. There were six of us from the Oakland group and we went by train. We took a big square box of food that must have stood three feet high and about two and a half feet square. I thought, "This time our Youth are not going hungry." We brought all kinds of food.

Well, we had a big surprise that Conclave because Beloved Mama, the Staff, and helpers took over. We did our own cooking so everybody had KP every other day. We were either setting tables, washing dishes, or preparing food.

Dictations had started coming through Beloved Mama on January 1, 1944 during the Christmas Class. So this Conclave we had marvelous Dictations every day. Our schedule for the day was Decrees at six in the morning, breakfast at eight, more decrees at ten, lunch at noon, the round tables - questions and answers - after that, dinner at six and Class at eight in the evening. Class was over between midnight and one in the morning. That schedule was pretty strenuous for some of the Students so Beloved Mama canceled the Decrees at ten in the morning and just read some of the Dictations that had come through in Chicago.

That year we all brought our Youth Group Crystal Cups to be blessed by Beloved Mama and the Ascended Masters.

Each Group at the Conclave put on a presentation. Ours was dedicated to the Beloved Archangel Michael and His Sword of Blue Flame. We all wore our blue and white capes and Burdette Cornell recited from Archangel Michael's Dictation.

Early in the summer of 1945 my father was hospitalized in Yountville in Northern California. One day my mother was in the lobby at the Sanctuary looking around and thought, "When Brownie comes back from the hospital, we will do this and we will do that." A Voice spoke to her and said,

"He is not to come back, he is to go on."

Mother said, "Oh!"

And the Voice repeated, "He is not to come back, he is to go on."

Mother said nothing at all about this to my father.

My mother and father wrote to each other every day, and about a week later my father wrote saying,

"Doris, it comes to me that if I would just let go, it would be over in about five minutes. I wonder if I shouldn't just let go."

Two of Oakland's Students were Anna and Alonzo Phillips. One day she said,

"I feel, Doris that I want to take you up to see brownie, so I have canceled all my appointments for today."

That was Monday the ninth of July. They made a lovely lunch and Anna Alanzo, Edith Frazier and my mother went up to see my father. They went out for a picnic and had a wonderful time talking. The next morning, July 10, 1945, we received a phone call from the hospital saying my beloved father had stepped through at two o'clock that morning. From the time he had rung for the nurse until she had arrived was less those five minutes. He had stepped through just as he had been prompted and thought it would happen.

My mother phoned Beloved Mama in Chicago to let her know. Betty Mundy and Beloved and Beloved Mama were in the room when the phone rang. Beloved Mama said,

"Betty that is Doris calling to let us know that Brownie had stepped through."

Before you call, they have answered. Isn't that beautiful?

Approximately two years later, in 1947, Charles Sindelar made his last visit to Oakland. About two weeks before Charles Sindelar made his Ascension, he had been out of the body four days (like Lazarus). As told in the Bible, Lazarus was very close to the Master Jesus. It is an interesting similarity.

When Charles came back to his body after the four days, he had a strong feeling to visit Ben and Dorothy Ensor and their Group in San Diego and my mother and our Group in Oakland. The Sindelars arrived in Oakland the week before Ascension week. On Tuesday Charles was invited to be on the platform. He accepted and was on Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs. Self in San Francisco heard that Charles was in the Bay Area so she invited him to speak to her Group on Thursday. He started to go but ended up apologizing to Mrs. Self saying that he could not make it. He returned to Oakland and went on the platform for the third time that Thursday night. There must have been some Inner reason for him to be on the Oakland platform three times. Often we see the triple activity.

When the Sindelars visited Oakland, we would take them out to different meals. This time, Charles said,

"Oh, I feel like strawberries."

The waitress said they did not have any strawberries, but they sent out and bought strawberries, and Charles was served strawberries. Another time, we went to the Confucius Restaurant for a

Chinese dinner. They had the most beautiful peonies. Charles commented on those beautiful peonies and when we left, they gave him a peony. Everything he wished for was handed to him. It was the most beautiful experience.

At this time my mother and I were living in a little studio, now a jewelry store. My mother, who was a good cook, was getting some food after the meeting. Charles Sindelar was talking to Mother and said,

"Oh, Doris, I had so many wonderful talks with Brownie. We would just sit down and talk about different things."

Mother said that she wanted to ask what they had talked about, but decided to wait until she visited him in Los Angeles. This was just a week before Ascension Day and the next day on Friday, the Sindelars returned to Los Angeles.

It was not easy to have them go. He was so luminous and we just did not want him to leave. His skin and the touch of his hand was just like Beloved Daddy's, always soft and loving. My mother had that touch, as does Frederick Landwehr. Very few people have that unusual, loving touch. Just before Charles left, he let my mother and me hold the symbol that was given to him by Beloved Saint Germain. We were not to look at it and we did not.

One week later, on Ascension Thursday of 1947, Charles Sindelar at the hour of the Jesus' Ascension stepped through into his own Ascension. Beloved Mama said he did not take the three days usually needed to withdraw the Light Pattern, he just stepped right straight through. Beloved Mama had the Service out under the pepper tree in Los Angeles at the White Temple. It was under that pepper tree that Charles would call forth a healing for the different Students that would call for help. It overlooked lovely Echo Lake in Los Angeles. There were gorgeous floral arrangements from everywhere. Ruben Sinex, Warren's father, was the head usher at Charles Sindelar's Ascension Service.

All through the years when needed, I had helped my parents in all ways and in all services in the Sanctuary. The Three Browns (as others referred to us) were a very close-knit family. It was such a privilege to be a part of Beloved Saint Germain's Family. In the Sanctuary at 124 Montecito in a Dictation through Beloved Daddy, Saint Germain gave a Blessing to the Three Browns. Beloved Frederick, a few years ago, had copied that portion and gave it to me on a July tenth. I told Beloved Frederick that July tenth was the day my father had stepped through into his Ascension in 1945.

My mother, Doris, made her Ascension on April 18, 1970. That year at Conclave, I escorted Beloved Mama for the evening meeting. I had not escorted for many, many years, as my mother and I had felt the desire to give the Students of Oakland the opportunity to receive Beloved Mama's Blessing.

We were so privileged to have had all this early association and training. Most interesting—one family—as sponsors from the beginning, to serve from 1934 to February 1982—about forth-seven years.

After my mother's ascension in 1970, I stayed on six more years in the family home, then sold it and moved to Lafayette. After six years the door opened to Paradise, California. I retired as sponsor in February 1982 and Lotus and Doug Woodworth were selected as new sponsors for the "I AM" Sanctuary of Oakland. Paradise Sanctuary, "Like a jewel of Light among the deodars" was my "I

AM" home for the following six years. Then my next move was to the capital city of Sacramento—the camellia heart of the world, and the third most tree'd city in the world. Burdette Cornell, the sponsor in Sacramento since 1950, was a former student and group leader in Oakland going back to 1936.

Beloved Mighty "I AM" Presence, may I fulfill my God Divine Plan God's Way and bless all Life everywhere forever.

"I AM" Perfection is, and all else ceases to be.

God Bless you and love you—each one whose Life streams I have touched. Strengthen you each one to fulfill your God Divine Plan God's Way.

I LOVE YOU!
I BLESS YOU!
I THANK YOU!--for all your Love and Kindness given to Doris, Brownie, and me throughout the years.

Lovingly in the Light,

"I AM" Virgilyn Brown